

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Brehmer et al. (US 2003/0133627).

Claims 2-5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In this connection, in response to the outstanding Office Action, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to incorporate one of the elements from allowable Claim 2. In particular, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitation that the voltage controlling block includes a D/A converting means for receiving a digital code and outputting an analog voltage used to adjust the voltage level supplied to a gate of a clamping means. In this connection, the prior art of record Brehmer et al., does not teach or suggest an image sensor which includes a D/A converting means for receiving a digital code and outputting an analog voltage used to adjust the voltage level supplied to a gate of a clamping means as disclosed and claimed by applicant.

Accordingly, although the indication of allowability of Claim 2 was not based solely on the D/A converting means, Applicant submits that since the prior art of record does not teach or suggest such a means, Claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the prior art of record.

Similarly, added independent Claim 7 is directed to an image sensor having similar limitations as amended Claim 1, and is in condition for allowance for the same reasons. Accordingly, since remaining claims 2-6 and 8-12 each depend directly or indirectly upon allowable claims 1 and 7, Applicant submits that the claims pending for examination, namely Claims 1-12 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

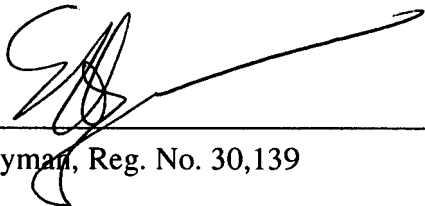
Additional amendments have been made to Claims 1 and 2 to provide further clarity to the claims.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 7/17/07

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on

July 18, 2007
Linda Metz

Linda Metz

7/18/2007
Date